

REMARKS

This application contains claims 1-12, 19-24, 26-40, 42-60, 62 and 63. Claims 1-12, 19-24, 26-40, 42-49 and 62 are allowed. Claims 50-59 and 63 are hereby canceled without prejudice. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

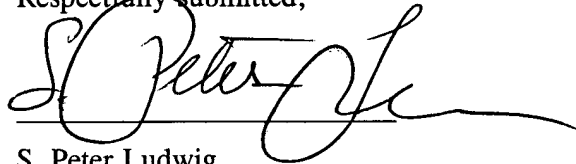
Claims 50-59 and 63 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) over Krishnamurthy (U.S. Patent 5,956,027). While disagreeing with the grounds of rejection, Applicants have canceled these claims in order to expedite issuance of a patent on the allowed claims.

Applicants have studied the additional references made of record by the Examiner and believe all the claims in the present patent application to be patentable over these references, whether taken individually or in any combination.

Applicants believe the amendments and remarks presented hereinabove to be fully responsive to all of the grounds of rejection raised by the Examiner. In view of these amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that all of the claims in the present application are in order for allowance. Notice to this effect is hereby requested.

Date: June 13, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Peter Ludwig', written over a horizontal line.

S. Peter Ludwig

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